



**Mayor Mike Spano**

Thomas G. Meier, Commissioner of Public Works



# **CITY OF YONKERS 2022 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT**

Mary Anne Wyatt-Dolan, Superintendent of Water

Kamal F. Marjeh, Kerrie Meyer  
Assistant Superintendents of Water



Dear Consumer:

The City of Yonkers Bureau of Water, Public Water System ID NY5903465, is pleased to present our Annual Report describing the quality of your drinking water. This report provides an overview of our drinking water quality for calendar year 2022. Included are details about where your water comes from, how it is treated, the importance of conservation and source water protection, what it contains and how it compares to State Standards. ***In 2022, the City of Yonkers' Water System was in compliance with all State and Federal Drinking Water Standards & Regulations except for failure to provide the required LT2ESWTR (40 C.F.R. §141.714) treatment to 299 MG of water received and discharged into our system from the New York City uncovered Hillview Reservoir. See page 12 for details.***

I am pleased to report that since the implementation of our Advanced Water Meter Infrastructure (AMI) program, in 2014, the City has seen a 9.3% reduction in demand and daily water consumption. Unfortunately, over the last 18 months our AMI System has been experiencing wide spread interruption in its transmission from the meter to our billing system. If you believe you are receiving inaccurate water bills please contact us at 914-377-6999 or at [www.yonkersny.gov/waterbills](http://www.yonkersny.gov/waterbills) so that we can evaluate your AMI equipment. To address this issue, the city has solicited a Request for Proposal to acquire a new

state of the art and robust AMI system that will benefit both the city and our water customers by providing more reliable and accurate customer meter reads and billing. Once a system is chosen it is the city's intent to begin its installation as soon as possible.

Due to the increasing costs to purchase, treat, repair and operate the city's water system, our goal is to encourage customer water usage awareness and conservation. I strongly encourage our water customers to take advantage of the free and secure on-line customer portal, WaterSmart, the city launched in 2020 to assist our customers in managing and tracking their water usage. It allows you to compare your current usage to historical usage patterns, set alarm notifications for overuse limits and to opt-in for electronic billing. For more information on WaterSmart visit [yonkersny.watersmart.com](http://yonkersny.watersmart.com). To further the City's conservation efforts the City of Yonkers, in 2022, signed an agreement with the NYC DEP to assist the City in the development and financing of a Water Demand Management Plan. The Plan provides programs the City will adopt to advance its conservation goals and water loss control efforts. Furthermore, at the end of this report we have included simple measures you can take to help conserve water and reduce your water billing costs. In addition, the City has partnered with American Water Resources (AWR) to offer a voluntary Water and Sewer Service Line Protection Program that provides affordable protection from

repairs to our customers. For more information call AWR toll-free at 1-866-315-4476.

To obtain a printed copy of this report and for additional information about this report or any other drinking water issue you would like to personally discuss, please contact Mary Anne Wyatt-Dolan, Superintendent of Water, at (914) 377-6764. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects call the Westchester County Department of Health at (914) 813-5000.

More information is also available online at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

In closing, I would like to thank our Water Bureau personnel who work 24/7, treating, testing, monitoring, pumping, repairing and delivering to you this most essential resource.

I'd also like to thank Mayor Mike Spano and his unwavering commitment to improving the City's Water System. Over the last 12 years, Yonkers has secured over \$47 million in Water System Capital Improvement Projects. These improvements will ensure the reliability and sustainability of the City's Water System for many years to come.

Thank you,  
Thomas G. Meier  
Commissioner of Public Works

## CUSTOMER SERVICE

Water Quality Questions.....	914-377-6764
Water Emergencies 24HR .....	914-377-6765
Water Billing.....	914-377-6148/6899
Schedule a Meter Read .....	914-377-6741
Mayor's Help Line .....	914-377-HELP (4357)
Yonkers' Problem Solver .....	<a href="http://yonkersny.gov/problemsolver.com">yonkersny.gov/problemsolver.com</a>



## What is Public Notification?

Subpart 5-1, section 5-1.78 of the NYS Sanitary Code requires the supplier of water to provide public notification for public health hazards and for all

MCL, MRDL, treatment technique, monitoring and testing procedure violations and for other situations

posing a risk to public health. Public notification requirements are divided into three tiers to take into account the seriousness of the violation:

**Tier 1 Public Notification**  
Requires the supplier of water to provide public notification no later than 24 hours after a system learns of a public health hazard.

Public Health Hazard is defined as an existing or imminent condition which can be responsible for or cause illness, injury or death and for which immediate corrective or remedial action is required.

**Tier 2 Public Notification**  
Requires the supplier of water to provide public notification within 30 days of learning of a violation or situation with the potential to have serious adverse effects on human health after long-term exposure, such as most MCI, MRDL and treatment technique violations that are not Public Health Hazards. Depending on the violation the NYSDOH may grant extensions.

**Tier 3 Public Notification**  
Requires the supplier of water to provide public notification within one year of learning of a less serious violation or situation that does not require a Tier 1 or Tier 2 notification, such as monitoring violations.

# Where Does Our Water Come From?

The City of Yonkers obtains its drinking water from the New York City Water Supply System, an unfiltered

surface water. Most of this water originates from two protected watershed areas, the Catskill and Delaware,

located in Delaware, Greene, Schoharie, Sullivan and Ulster counties west of the Hudson River in

upstate New York. The New York City Department of Environmental Protection's (NYC DEP) Bureau of Water Supply, Quality and Protection oversees the operation, maintenance and protection of this upstate reservoir system; consisting of 19 reservoirs and 3 controlled lakes. On average, over a billion gallons of water travels per day through two NYC DEP owned and operated aqueduct (tunnel) systems, the Catskill and Delaware, to feed the Kensico Reservoir located in Westchester County. Under normal operations, the waters are blended here before traveling further south to the NYC Hillview Reservoir located in Yonkers, New York. Before the water arrives at the Hillview Reservoir it enters our system at several locations. In addition, water also enters the Yonkers System from 8 interconnections to WCWD #1's Kensico-Bronx (K-B) Pipe-line, whose source of supply for our 7 southern interconnections, south of Crisfield Street, is the NYC Delaware Aqueduct. Meanwhile the city's most northern interconnection is supplied from the NYC Kensico Reservoir.

From these points of entry, the water enters 385 miles of distribution piping to serve the 211,569 residents of the City of Yonkers through 29,687 metered service connections.



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## Source Water Assessment Findings

The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) required states to develop and implement Source Water Assessment Programs to assess a drinking water system's susceptibility to contamination. Summarized in the paragraphs below are the NYS DOH's early 2000 findings related to our source of supply the NYC Catskill/Delaware watersheds. It is important to stress that these assessments were created using available information and only estimate the potential for source water contamination. Furthermore, elevated susceptibility ratings do not mean that source water contamination has or will occur for this Public Water System (PWS). Please be advised this PWS provides treatment and regular monitoring to ensure the water delivered to consumers meets all applicable standards. Specifically the reservoirs in the Catskill/Delaware watersheds, a mountainous rural area, are relatively deep with little development

along their shorelines. The main water quality concerns associated with land cover is agriculture, which can contribute microbial contaminants, pesticides and algae producing nutrients. There are also some potential contamination concerns associated with residential lands and associated wastewater discharges. However, advanced treatments which reduce contaminants are in place for most of these discharges. There are also a number of other discrete facilities, such as landfills, chemical bulk storages, etc. that have the potential to impact local water quality, but large significant water quality problems associated with these facilities are unlikely due to the size of the watershed and the surveillance and management practices currently in place.

The purpose of the program was to provide water systems the information needed to formulate and implement

protection measures. Since 1997, the NYC DEP has implemented a series of source water protection programs and initiatives to protect their reservoirs and the streams that feed them within these watersheds. Their efforts focus on three important program areas: the enforcement of strengthened watershed rules and regulations; the acquisition and protection of watershed lands; and implementation partnership programs that target the prevention of specific sources of pollution in the watersheds. These programs operate under the close scrutiny of both the NYSDOH and EPA. Because of these extensive programs, the NYSDOH does not find it necessary to perform a current source water assessment on the NYC Catskill/Delaware watersheds. Additional information on the water quality and protection efforts in these New York City watersheds can be found at DEP's web site at [www.nyc.gov/watershed](http://www.nyc.gov/watershed).

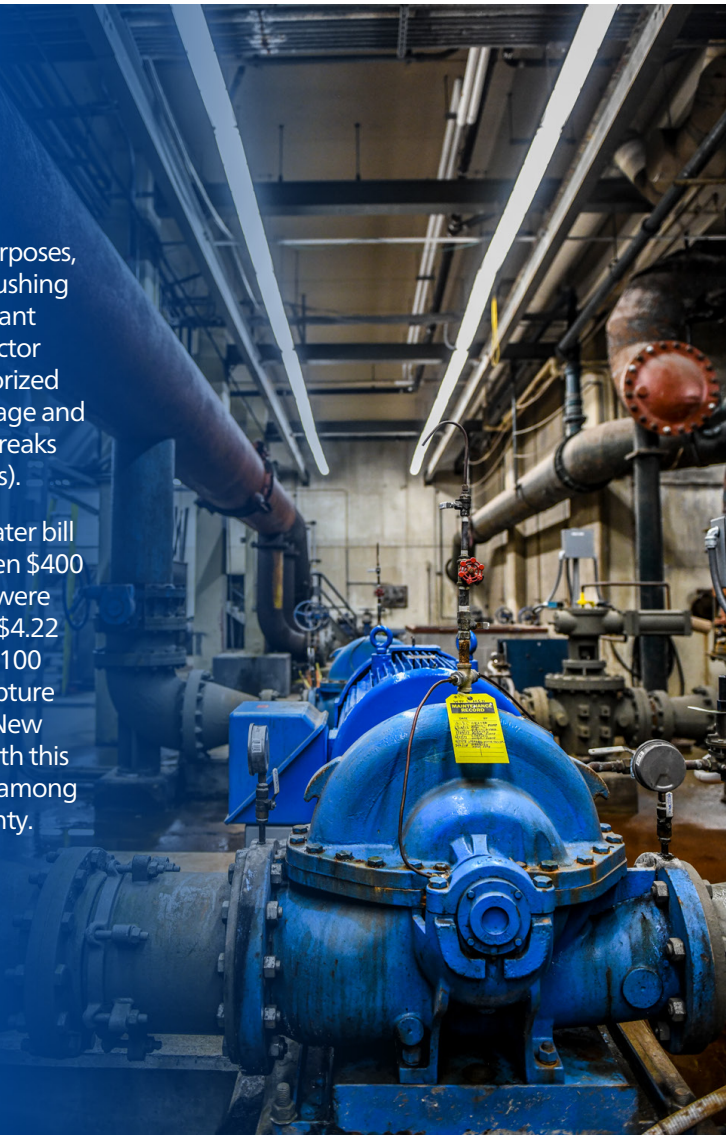
## Facts and Figures

In 2022, a total of 8.645 billion gallons of water entered our distribution system. Of that total, 7.462 billion was purchased from New York City, 1.177 billion from WCWD#1 and 5.673 million from the Town of Greenburgh. This yielded an average daily citywide consumption of 23.7 million gallons with an average daily per capita usage of 112 gallons.

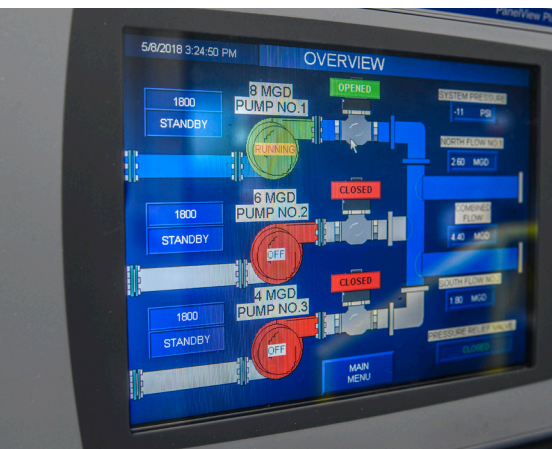
The City's AWWA 2022 Water Audit indicated that approximately 72.7% of the total amount of water that entered our system was billed directly to customers and 2.26% supplied the city's public schools and municipal buildings. The balance, 25%, termed unaccounted for water represents a combination of the city's apparent losses (water meter under registration and under billing) and real losses

(water used for fire fighting purposes, hydrant inspections, hydrant flushing to maintain water quality, hydrant use for street sweeping, contractor hydrant permit usage, unauthorized usage, distribution system leakage and water loss due to water main breaks and home-owner's service leaks).

In 2022, the average annual water bill for a family of 4 ranged between \$400 - \$550. Residential water rates were increased on July 1, 2022 from \$4.22 per 100 cubic feet to \$4.51 per 100 cubic feet (748 gallons) to recapture increases passed down by the New York City Water Board. Even with this increase Yonkers' rates are still among the lowest in Westchester County.



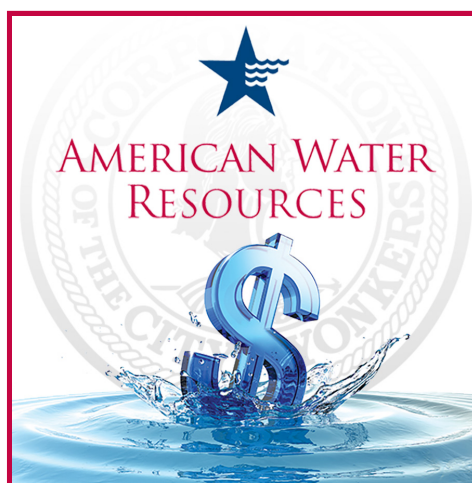
# How is the City of Yonkers' Water Treated?



The water obtained from the New York City Aqueducts and WCWD#1's Lower K-B Pipeline are initially treated upstream at the Kensico Reservoir by the NYC DEP with the addition of chlorine, the primary disinfectant, followed by a secondary level of disinfection, ultraviolet light, to comply with the Federal Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule's, LT2ESWTR, disinfection requirements. The LT2ESWTR reduces the risk of exposure to a potentially harmful microbiological contaminant, Cryptosporidium. In addition, the NYC DEP treats the water with a low level of fluoride, pursuant to the NYC Health Code Article 141. According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), fluoride is very effective in providing dental

protection, preventing cavities, when present in drinking water at an optimal range from 0.7 to 1.2 mg/L [parts per million]. To ensure that the fluoride supplement in your water provides optimal dental protection, the NYSDOH requires that the NYC DEP monitor fluoride levels on a daily basis. During calendar year 2022, fluoride was continuously supplied except to perform preventative and corrective maintenance. In total, fluoridation was offline 0.35% of the time. Outside of this, DEP met the required fluoride levels and at no time did the fluoride level approach the fluoride maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 2.2 mg/L. The water obtained from WCWD#1's Upper K-B pipeline is treated similarly by Westchester County except for the addition of fluoride. Consequently, during calendar year 2022 the high

service sector of northeast Yonkers, located along the east & west corridor of Central Park Avenue north of Palmer Road, received a mixture of unfluoridated & fluoridated water. You can confirm if you are impacted by calling the City of Yonkers' Water Laboratory at **914-377- 6764**. Before all this water enters our distribution system it is again treated, at our points of entry, with either chlorine gas or calcium hypochlorite, to booster the disinfectant residual so that a detectable chlorine residual is maintained throughout the distribution system. In addition, the water is treated with New York State and Federal mandated corrosion control treatment to reduce the release of metals, such as lead and copper, into the consumer's tap water from household plumbing and lead service lines.



*American Water Resources provides optional water and sewer line protection services for area homeowners. They have saved Yonkers residents over 2.5 million dollars in repair costs.*

**For more information call 1-866-315-4476 or visit [awrusa.com/yonkers](http://awrusa.com/yonkers)**

## What is Disinfection?

A chemical or physical process designed to destroy or inactivate pathogenic organisms. The most widely used chemical disinfectant is chlorine.

## Corrosion Control Treatment

A chemical process that coats the interior surface of pipe walls especially lead pipes and surfaces. The City of Yonkers uses food grade phosphoric acid as the corrosion inhibitor with caustic soda for pH control.

## What is Ultraviolet Disinfection?

The process of passing water by special lamps that emit UV light to inactivate pathogenic microorganisms. UV treatment does not change the water chemically, as nothing is added except energy.





# Capital Improvements

In our continuing efforts to improve and reinforce our Water System's aging infrastructure and to comply with existing and future State and Federal Regulations, the City of Yonkers' Bureau of Water implemented the following capital improvement projects during calendar year 2022: Performed the NYS DEC 5 year inspection on our Hillview Corrosion Control Facility's Caustic Soda Chemical Bulk Storage Tank System. Completed the upgrading of the chemical feed system at our Tuckahoe Road Disinfection Facility. Completed the construction of Phase 2 of the Inter-pressure zone connection on Lamartine Avenue to provide redundant domestic pressure and fire flow availability to the low pressure zones of Warburton and Ashburton Avenues. This phase involved the continuation of the 16" water main on Warburton Avenue between Lamartine and Ashburton Avenues. Funding for this project was provided from a NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WII) grant award. Completed the design to upgrade our 50 year old Crisfield Street Pump Station. The design includes the replacement of the Station's existing Motor Control Centers, MCCs, with energy efficient variable frequency motor drivers, new pumps and motors, new pump control valves and the refurbishment of the Station's two exterior water valves, that control the supply of water into and out of the Station. We are currently awaiting Health Department review & approval to proceed. Performed a city-wide leak detection survey to identify system water losses occurring from undetected water main and customer water service leaks. We are proud to report that the city was awarded \$3M in Grant funding to assist towards the construction costs of our Nepperhan Avenue Redundancy project. This project consists of the installation of a new 16 inch diameter water main on Nepperhan Avenue, between Elm Street and Riverdale Avenue, including multiple interconnections to the existing distribution system. Upon completion it will provide redundant domestic pressure and fire flow availability to the southwest sector of the city. Completed the design to convert two of our Hillview Pump Station's fixed speed Motor Control Centers over to Variable Frequency/Speed Drives, VFDs.

This conversion will provide for improved water quality in Nodine Water Tower and improved pressure management in the Dunwoodie, Seminary, Park Hill, Nodine and Lincoln Park sections of the city. Completed the flood mitigation project at the Water Treatment Plant (WTP). This project will prevent future flooding of the WTP's basement's pump room gallery, from the Saw Mill River, during severe storm events. Executed a Water Demand management inter-municipal Agreement with New York City to assist the City of Yonkers in the development, implementation and financing of a Water Demand Management Plan. This Plan provides programs the city will adopt to advance its conservation goals and water loss control efforts. . For example, perform biannual comprehensive city-wide leak detection surveys, to identify "undetected" water main and customer water service leaks, expedite the repair of these identified water leaks, and optimize system operating pressures, by installing Pressure Regulating Valves (PRVs) and VFD Motor Control Centers to better control system pressures and implement a pressure management system. This agreement will provide \$3.97M in funding to the city, over 5 years, to assist in the implementation of these programs. Submitted an application to the NYS DHSES FY 2020 Critical Infrastructure Grant Program (CIGP) for funding to implement security improvements at one of the Water Bureau's critical treatment facilities and an application to the NYS DHSES FY 2022 Urban Area's Security Initiative (UASI) Program for funding to enhance the cyber security of the Water Bureau's SCADA System's real time communication and process control network. We are proud to report that city was awarded \$47,777 in federal funding to implement the security improvements (installation of security lighting, intrusion detection cameras & equipment) at its Critical Infrastructure and \$50,000 in UASI grant funding to provide the Water Bureau's SCADA System the needed protection against hackers and cyberattacks. Completed the design of the three new Water Quality Monitoring Stations that will be needed in 2023 to provide continuous water quality monitoring to demonstrate the inactivation of enteric viruses, downstream

of the point of our disinfectant application, in accordance with the US EPA LT2SWTR; completed the design to replace/ upgrade our Hillview Corrosion Control Phosphoric Acid Chemical Bulk Storage (CBS) Tank System; submitted a Grant application to FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to fund up to 75% of the costs to purchase and install a permanently mounted emergency generator and Automated Transfer Switch, ATS, at our Hillview Pumping and Corrosion Control Facility to maintain uninterrupted treatment and pumping capabilities during Con Ed power outages; completed and submitted to EPA a Risk Management Plan for the storage and treatment delivery of our chemical disinfectant. In addition, during calendar year 2022 the Water Bureau inspected 1062 fire hydrants, repaired 414 and replaced 93 inoperable hydrants as part of its ongoing Hydrant Replacement Program. This program ensures that the Fire Department has operational hydrants for fire protection; Water Bureau personnel also repaired 43 main breaks, exercised 606 water system valves and replaced 61 inoperable gate valves, investigated 554 leaks and issued 132 customer service leak notices, installed 87 water taps and 14 wet connections, performed 33 Flow tests to provide Developers, Engineers, Fire Sprinkler Companies & Architects information on the existing capacity of the city's water mains to determine whether they can provide the domestic and fire demand for the new development; replaced 1460 water Meter Transmission Units (MTUs) and 112 water meters, responded to 3561 code 753 mark outs of the City's underground water mains so that the City's water mains will not be damaged during excavations performed by other underground utilities and maintained an aggressive Cross Connection Control Program, reviewed 754 back flow mitigation applications and annual testing reports, to protect the Water System from possible contamination.

The following capital improvement projects are scheduled for calendar year 2023: Perform the maintenance work on our two 1MG elevated Water Towers, Southern Westchester Executive Park (SWEP) & Concord Road Water Towers, as recommended in the November 2021

Water Tower Inspection Report; commence and complete the construction for the replacement of our Hillview Corrosion Control Phosphoric Acid CBS Tank System; convert two of our Hillview Pump Station's fixed speed Motor Control Centers over to Variable Frequency/ Speed Drives, VFDs. Install a replacement diesel engine at our Tuckahoe Road Pump Station to provide redundant pumping capabilities to the northeast and central high service sectors of our distribution system during Con Ed power outages; continue implementing the programs outlined in the City's Water Demand Management Plan. Implement the security improvements utilizing the grant funding awarded under the NYS DHSES FY 2020 Critical Infrastructure Grant Program and the SCADA system's cybersecurity enhancements utilizing the 2021 and 2022 UASI grant funding; submit a WIIA Grant application for grant funding to assist in financing the construction costs

of the Wendover Improvement Project. This project involves the replacement of a section of 100-year old 30 inch diameter transmission main, damaged and temporarily repaired back in 2012, that runs under the Saw Mill River Parkway connecting the east side of the Wendover pipeline, under Tibbetts Brook Park, to the west side of the pipeline on Wendover Road. Commence the construction of the three new Water Quality Monitoring Stations; complete the digitization of the water system's records into a GIS validated geo-referenced database to assist field personnel in the repair and maintenance of the system and to provide the capability to manage the assets of the city's water system. Award and implement a Contract to install a new robust AML system that will ensure more accurate customer reads and billing. Enhancements include a two way communication pathway, to allow for diagnostic testing and real time meter

reads, pressure sensors, to provide improved pressure management of our distribution system, temperature sensors that can alert both the city and customer when the meter's temperature approaches freezing conditions and acoustic leak sensors, to provide daily leak detection monitoring of both the customer's service line and the mains of our distribution system. Complete the design to replace a portion of a main that crosses under the NYS Thruway. This main is needed to provide service redundancy to the southeast high service sector of our distribution system. Finally, commence the material composition inventory of the 29,687 water service lines served by our water system. In accordance with the December 2021 US EPA Lead & Copper Rule Revisions all public water systems must submit to the NYS DOH, by October 16, 2024, a Service Line Inventory, regardless of ownership, to identify the presence of all the lead and galvanized water service lines served by the water system.

## Water Quality

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or contacting them on the World Wide Web at [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and the EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in

water provided by public water systems. The State Health Department and the FDA's regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

The New York State Sanitary Code and the EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. Every day, throughout the City, Water Department personnel conduct tests to monitor the quality of our drinking water. Most of the required compliance monitoring for the City of Yonkers, including daily bacteriological analyses, physical, inorganic trace metal and Trihalomethane (THM) Disinfection Byproduct testing was performed by the City of Yonkers, Bureau of Water's NELAC accredited Environmental Laboratory, NYS Lab ID No. 10176.

Other required monitoring tests (e.g. Synthetic Organic Contaminants including pesticides and herbicides, Radiological Contaminants, Volatile Organic Contaminants, Unregulated Contaminants and Haloacetic acid (HAA5) Disinfection Byproducts) were conducted

by New York State Certified Laboratories. Last year, Water Department Personnel collected 15,000 water samples. From those samples, tests were conducted for 175 different water contaminants. Of the 175 contaminants monitored, 29 were detected as denoted in this report.

The tables on the following pages list the names and the amounts of all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2022 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

The data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in these tables is from testing done from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Oftentimes, the state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Therefore, some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.



## Contaminants Monitored But Not Detected

The inorganic contaminants monitored at the points of entry to our system but not detected in calendar year 2022 include: antimony, arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, cyanide, lead, mercury, nitrite, selenium, silver, thallium and total chromium.

Specified organic contaminants (Pesticides, Herbicides, Dioxin, and PCB's) monitored in our source waters but not detected include: Alachlor, Aldicarb, Aldicarb sulfoxide, Aldicarb sulfone, Atrazine, Carbofuran, Chlordane, Dicamba, 1-4 Dioxane, 2,4-D, Endrin, Heptachlor, Heptachlor epoxide, Lindane, Methoxychlor, Pentachlorophenol, Toxaphene, 2,4,5-TP (Silvex), Aldrin, Benzo (a) pyrene, Butachlor, Carbaryl, Dalapon, bis (2-Ethylhexyl) adipate, bis (2-Ethylhexyl) phthalate, Dieldrin, Dinoseb, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Methomyl, Metolachlor, Metribuzin, Oxamyl, vydate, Picloram, Propachlor, Simazine, 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane, 1,2-Dibromoethane and Methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE). The Principal and Unspecified organic contaminants that were monitored for, in 2020, and not detected in our source waters include: Bromoform, Dibromochloromethane, Benzene, Bromobenzene, Bromochloromethane, Bromomethane, N-Butylbenzene, sec-Butylbenzene, tert-Butylbenzene, Carbon Tetrachloride, Chlorobenzene, Chloroethane, Chloromethane, 2-Chlorotoluene, 4-Chlorotoluene, Dibromomethane, 1,2-Dichlorobenzene, 1,3-Dichlorobenzene, 1,4-Dichlorobenzene, Dichlorodifluoromethane, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethene, cis-1,2-Dichloroethene, trans-1,2-

Dichloroethene, 1,2-Dichloropropane, 1,3-Dichloropropane, 2,2-Dichloropropane, 1,1-Dichloropropene, cis-1,3-Dichloropropene, trans-1,3-Dichloropropene, Ethylbenzene, Hexachlorobutadiene, Isopropylbenzene, p-Isopropyltoluene, Methylene Chloride, n-Propylbenzene, Styrene, 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, Tetrachloroethene, Toluene, 1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene, 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, Trichloroethene, Trichlorofluoromethane, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene, 1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene, m-Xylene, o-Xylene, p-Xylene, Naphthalene, Vinyl chloride. In 2010 the NYS Department of Health [NYS DOH] waived the source monitoring requirement [every 18 months] for the following Pesticides, Herbicides and Dioxin: 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane, Ethylene Dibromide [1,2-Dibromoethane], Diquat, Endothall, Glyphosate and 2, 3, 7, 8-TCDD [Dioxin]. The NYS DOH has determined that the NYC DEP's source waters are not vulnerable to contamination by these compounds. Furthermore, the man-made emerging contaminants Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and the 16 Polyfluoroalkyl Substances known as PFAS {GenXHFPO-DA, NETFOSAA, NMeFOSAA, PFBS, PFDA, PFDoA, PFHpA, PFHxS, PFHxA, PFNA, PFTeDA, PFTrDA, PFUnA, 11Cl-PF3OUdS, 9Cl-PF3ONS and ADONA} were not detected during calendar year 2022's source water monitoring. In addition, in calendar year 2022 the bacteria *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*), used to monitor

the microbiological quality of the City of Yonkers' Water Distribution System, was not detected. Also, Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's), that are monitored on our source waters every 18 months, were not detected when last monitored in 2021; the Radiological contaminants Uranium, Radium 226 & 228 and Gross Alpha/ Beta Radiation, that are monitored at the Entry Point's to our water system every nine years, were not detected when last monitored in 2021. Finally, the inorganic contaminant asbestos, that is required to be monitored every nine years, was not detected, when last monitored, in calendar year 2018.

In accordance with US EPA's 4th Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, UCMR4, the City of Yonkers in 2018 tested and did not detect the cyanotoxin contaminants, toxins produced by blue green algae, anatoxin-a and cylindrospermopsin. Since the total microcystin concentration tested was LT 0.030ug/L the 6 microcystin congeners plus nodularin were not required to be tested. Furthermore, in 2019 the City of Yonkers tested and did not detect the following US EPA's UCMR4 contaminants: the metal contaminant germanium; the 9 pesticides and pesticide manufacturing byproducts; alpha- hexachlorocyclohexane, chlorpyrifos, dimethipin, ethoprop, oxyfluorfen, profenofus, tebuconazole, total permethrin (cis- & trans-), and tribufos; the alcohol contaminants 2-methoxyethanol and 2-propen-1-ol and the 3 semivolatile organic contaminants butylated hydroxyanisole, o-toluidine and quinoline.



The following definitions will assist you in your interpretation of the data:

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Variances and Exemptions:** State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**90th Percentile Value:** The values reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile. A percentile is a value on a scale of 100 that indicates the percent of a distribution that is equal to or below it. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of the lead and copper concentrations detected in our water system.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to public health.

**Level 1 Assessment:** In accordance with the Revised Total Coliform Rule when the percentage of positive Total Coliform compliance monitoring samples in any single month exceeds the 5% monthly positive Total Coliform Treatment Technique (TT) it requires that we conduct an investigation to identify potential water treatment or distribution system problems and to correct any problems that were found during the assessment.

To convert from ppm (mg/L) to ppb (ug/L) multiply ppm level by 1000.

## KEY TO TABLES

<b>AL</b>	Action Level	<b>NDL</b>	No Designated Limits
<b>EP</b>	Entry Point; last point of treatment before first customer connection.	<b>NTU</b>	Nephelometric Turbidity Units; a measure of the clarity of water.
<b>GT</b>	Greater Than	<b>pCi/L</b>	picocuries per liter; a measure of radioactivity in water.
<b>LT</b>	Less Than	<b>ppb</b>	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
<b>MCL</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level	<b>ppm</b>	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
<b>MCLG</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	<b>TT</b>	Treatment Technique
<b>MRDL</b>	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; effective January 2002.	<b>uS/cm</b>	microsiemens per centimeter; a measure of the ability to conduct current.
<b>N/A</b>	Not Applicable	<b>1/cm</b>	inverse centimeter
<b>ND</b>	Not Detected	<b>HRL</b>	Health Reference Level used by EPA to evaluate occurrence data

## Footnotes For Following Tables

<sup>1</sup>TTHM is the sum of the concentration of chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform. These compounds have the potential to form as a result of chlorine (the disinfectant added to our drinking water) combining with the natural organics in water. The reported level detected, 71.4 ug/L, is the highest locational running annual average calculated from quarterly data results observed at one of the City's eight Stage 2 monitoring locations. Compliance was based on the average of 4 quarters of sampling results.

<sup>2</sup>There is no collective MCLG for this contaminant group.

<sup>3</sup>HAA5 is the sum of the concentration of mono-, di- and trichloroacetic acids and mono- and dibromoacetic acids. They have the potential to form as a result of chlorine (the disinfectant added to our drinking water) combining with the natural organics in water. The reported level detected, 51.0 ug/L, is the highest locational running annual average calculated from quarterly data results observed at one of the City's eight Stage 2 monitoring locations. Compliance was based on the average of 4 quarters of sampling results.

<sup>4</sup>2022's biweekly Entry Point and Distribution System water quality monitoring indicated that the City of Yonkers operated in compliance with State specified

water quality ranges needed to maintain system wide corrosion control treatment.

<sup>5</sup>The reported maximum level detected is the highest average observed in calendar year 2022 at anyone of our Entry Points.

<sup>6</sup>If Iron and Manganese are present; the total concentration of both should not exceed 500 ppb.

continued on page 10

## Footnotes For Following Tables (continued)

<sup>7</sup>Water containing more than 20 ppm should not be used for drinking by people on severely restricted sodium diets. Water containing more than 270 ppm of sodium should not be used for drinking by people on moderately restricted sodium diets.

<sup>8</sup>Total Coliforms (TC) are bacteria, which are naturally present in the environment. They are used as indicators that other, potentially harmful bacteria

may be present. When more than 5% of the routine and repeat TC, compliance monitoring, samples are positive for TC, in any one month, it triggers a Level 1 Assessment to identify possible sanitary defects in a Public Water System (PWS). The highest percentage of TC positive compliance monitoring samples, in any one month of calendar year 2022, was 3.66% during the month of July 2022.

<sup>9</sup>Turbidity is a measure of water clarity. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. Although turbidity has no health effects, elevated turbidity can interfere with the disinfection process. Entry Point data are single turbidity measurements whereas; the Distribution System data is representative of the monthly distribution sample average.

### DETECTED DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	Major Sources	Violation
<sup>1</sup> TTHMs Total Trihalomethanes Disinfection Byproducts	2022 Quarterly Monitoring	ppb	80	<sup>2</sup> N/A	71.4 Highest Locational Running Annual Average	27.9 – 70.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination. TTHMs are formed when source water contains large amounts of organic matter.	No
<sup>3</sup> HAA5 Total Haloacetic Acids (5) Disinfection Byproducts	2022 Quarterly Monitoring	ppb	60	<sup>2</sup> N/A	51.0 Highest Locational Running Annual Average	ND – 45.0	By-product of drinking water disinfection. Disinfection is needed to kill harmful organisms.	No

### LEAD & COPPER RULE MONITORING RESULTS

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	# of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Major Sources	Violation
Lead	June –Sept. 2021	ppb	AL=15	0	4.26 90th percentile concentration	LT 1.00 – 6.74	None of the 51 sites tested exceeded the Lead Action Level	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.	No
Copper	June –Sept. 2021	ppm	AL=1.3	1.3	0.181 90th percentile concentration	LT 0.014 – 0.229	None of the 51 sites tested exceeded the Copper Action Level	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.	No

### DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

#### <sup>4</sup>Water Quality Parameters Used to Assess Corrosion Control Treatment

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Max Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	Major Sources	Violation
pH (Hydrogen Ion) – EP Distribution System	2022	units	NDL	N/A	7.47 7.88	7.03 – 7.63 7.02 – 7.88	Impacted by acid rain and the addition of water treatment chemicals.	No
Total Alkalinity – EP Distribution System	2022	mg/L	NDL	N/A	17.3 24.4	13.2 – 23.6 13.6 – 24.4	Erosion of soil and rock formations. Impacted by Water Treatment chemicals.	No
Conductivity – EP Distribution System	2022	uS/cm	NDL	N/A	94.5 104	80.5 – 105 83.9 – 104	Presence of ions due to erosion of natural deposits.	No
Water Temperature – EP Distribution System	2022	°C	NDL	N/A	12.6 23.5	2.0 – 21.5 4.0 – 23.5		No
Orthophosphate as P-EP Distribution System	2022	ppm	NDL	N/A	1.05 1.44	0.157 – 1.17 0.730 – 1.44	Water treatment chemical added to reduce the release of lead from household plumbing.	No



REGULATED INORGANIC and PHYSICAL CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Max Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	Major Sources	Violation
Aluminum	June 2022	ppb	NDL	N/A	19.6	16.5 – 19.6	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Barium	June 2022	ppb	2000	2000	17.2	14.4 – 17.2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Chloride	April 2022	ppm	250.0	N/A	14.3	12.5 – 14.3	Naturally occurring or indicative of road salt contamination.	No
Chlorine, Free Entry Point Distribution System Disinfectant Residual	2022	ppm	MRDL 4.0 4.0	MRDLG 4 4	1.32 Average 0.84 Average	0.35 – 2.97 0.07 – 1.90	Water additive used to control microbes.	No
Color Apparent	April 2022	Units	15	N/A	5	–	Presence of metals, copper, iron, manganese and decaying leaves, plants and soil organic matter.	No
Fluoride	2022	ppm	2.2	N/A	<sup>5</sup> 0.67	LT0.10 – 0.80	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive, which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	No
<sup>6</sup> Iron	June 2022	ppb	300	N/A	34.0	27.0 – 34.0	Erosion of soils and natural deposits, corrosion of the interior walls of water mains.	No
<sup>6</sup> Manganese	June 2022	ppb	300	N/A	16.1	10.6 – 16.1	Naturally occurring; Indicative of landfill contamination.	No
Nickel	June 2022	ppb	NDL	NDL	0.370	0.34.– 0.370	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Nitrate mg/L as Nitrogen	April 2022	ppm	10	10	0.113	0.111 – 0.113	Run off from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.	No
pH (Hydrogen Ion)	2022	Units	NDL	N/A	<sup>5</sup> 7.46	6.94 – 8.13	Impacted by acid rain & the addition of water treatment chemicals.	No
<sup>7</sup> Sodium	June 2022	ppm	NDL	N/A	10.5	9.79 – 10.5	Naturally occurring; road salt.	No
Sulfate	April 2022	ppm	250.0	N/A	3.77	3.60 – 3.77	Naturally occurring.	No
<sup>8</sup> Total Coliform Bacteria	July 2022	N/A	TT GT 5% + samples in any 1 month	N/A	Highest Monthly % 3.66% <sup>8</sup> 6 Positive Samples	N/A	Naturally present in the environment.	No
<sup>9</sup> Turbidity Entry Point Distribution System	Jan. 2022 April 2022	NTU NTU	TT ≤ 5 5	N/A	2.07 1.16	0.40 – 2.07 0.69 – 1.16	Soil run off.	No
Zinc	June 2022	ppb	5000	N/A	1.35	LT 1.00 – 1.35	Naturally occurring; Mining waste.	No

UCMR 4 DETECTED CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Max Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	Major Sources	Violation
HAA6Br Total Brominated Haloacetic Acids	2019	ppb	N/A	N/A	3.48 Highest Locational Average	0.96 – 4.4	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	No
HAA9 Sum of all Haloacetic Acids	2019	ppb	N/A	N/A	52.0 Highest Locational Average	11.8 – 74.3	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	No
Manganese	2019	ppb	HRL=300	N/A	15.1 Highest Locational Average	8.4 – 23.2	Naturally occurring; Indicative of landfill contamination. Used in steel production, fertilizer, batteries and fireworks; water and wastewater treatment; an essential nutrient.	No
1-butanol	2019	ppb	HRL=700	N/A	LT2.0(1.58)	LT2.0 – 3.3	Used as a solvent; food additive and in the production of other chemicals.	No

## What Do These Results Mean?

In accordance with State and Federal Drinking Water regulations the City of Yonkers is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular

monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. Through our testing we have learned that some contaminants have been detected, however these contaminants were detected at levels

below New York State requirements. As you can see from the tables our water system had no MCL violations in calendar year 2022.

## Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules That Govern Operations?

During the past year the City of Yonkers' Water System was in compliance with all applicable State and Federal Drinking Water requirements except for failure to provide the required treatment, in accordance with the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, LT2ESWTR (40 C.F.R. §141.714), to 299 MG of water received and discharged into the Yonkers system from the NYC Hillview uncovered Finished Water Reservoir, between November 3, 2022 and November 17, 2022, during a NYC DEP Catskill Aqueduct shutdown. Although the NYC DEP provides the required LT2ESWTR (40 C.F.R. §141.714) treatment to its water prior to its arrival to their Hillview Reservoir, uncovered finished water reservoirs, such as the NYC Hillview Reservoir, are susceptible

to microbial pathogen contamination, from animal fecal waste, and therefore present a risk to public health. Consequently, this inadequately treated water may have contained disease-causing organisms that include bacteria, viruses and parasites, such as Giardia lamblia & Cryptosporidium, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches. Thus, the City of Yonkers, on 4-11-23, received an Administrative Order from the EPA, Docket No. SDWA-02-2023-8043, to prepare a schedule on how the City plans to achieve compliance with LT2ESWTR (40 C.F.R. §141.714) on the back-fed water it receives, from the NYC uncovered Hillview Reservoir, during NYC DEP Aqueduct shutdowns.





# Information on Cryptosporidium and Giardia

Cryptosporidium (a protozoan) is a microbial pathogen found in surface water and groundwater under the influence of surface water. Federal and State Law require all water suppliers to notify their customers about the potential risks of Cryptosporidium. During 2022, as part of routine source water monitoring, NYC DEP collected weekly, 50 liter volume, samples from the outflow of the Kensico Reservoir, prior to chlorination and UV disinfection, and analyzed them for Cryptosporidium oocysts. Of the 52 samples collected, 4 tested positive for between 0 - 1 Cryptosporidium oocysts. Throughout calendar year 2022, 96.5% of the City of Yonkers' source water supply received the required level of treatment, to satisfactorily reduce the risk of exposure to Cryptosporidium, as defined in the US EPA's LT2ESWTR for unfiltered water systems, from either NYC DEP's or Westchester County's CAPS Ultraviolet Disinfection Facilities. The remaining 3.5%, that did not comply, was representative of the water back fed into our system between November 3, 2022 and November 17, 2022 from the NYC uncovered Hillview Reservoir. In accordance with a Consent Decree between the City of New York and the United States, on behalf of the EPA, for failure to cover their Hillview finished water reservoir, weekly samples were collected and analyzed for Cryptosporidium on the reservoir's effluent. Of the 52 weekly samples collected in 2022, 3 tested positive for between 0-1 Cryptosporidium oocysts. Therefore, testing indicates the presence of Cryptosporidium in our source water. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause

the gastrointestinal infection cryptosporidiosis and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immunocompromised people are at greater risk of developing this life threatening illness. We encourage immunocompromised individuals to consult with their health care provider regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection.

Giardia (a protozoan) is another microbial pathogen present in varying concentrations in many surface waters and groundwater under the influence of surface water. Giardia is removed/ inactivated through a combination of filtration and disinfection or by disinfection alone. During 2022, as part of routine source water monitoring, the NYC DEP collected weekly, 50 liter volume, samples from the outflow of the Kensico Reservoir and analyzed them for Giardia cysts. Of these 52 samples, 21 tested positive for between 0 - 6 Giardia cysts. Throughout calendar year 2022, 96.5% of the City of Yonkers' source water supply received the State and Federal disinfection requirements that ensure Giardia cysts, found in our source water, were satisfactorily inactivated before the water reached our 1st customer. The remaining 3.5%, that did not comply, was representative of the water back fed into our system between November 3, 2022 and November 17, 2022 from the NYC uncovered Hillview Reservoir. In accordance with a Consent Decree

between the City of New York and the United States, on behalf of the EPA, for failure to cover their Hillview finished water reservoir, weekly samples are collected and analyzed for Giardia on the reservoir's effluent. Of the 52 weekly samples collected in 2022, 12 tested positive for between 0-4 Giardia cysts. Therefore, testing indicates the presence of Giardia in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Giardia may cause giardiasis, an intestinal illness. People exposed to Giardia may experience mild or severe diarrhea, or in some instances, no symptoms at all. Fever is rarely present. Occasionally, some individuals will have chronic diarrhea over several weeks or a month, with significant weight loss. Giardiasis can be treated with anti-parasitic medication. Individuals with weakened immune systems should consult with their health care providers about what steps would be best to reduce their risks of becoming infected with giardiasis. Individuals who think that they may have been exposed to Giardia should contact their health care providers immediately. The Giardia parasite is passed in the feces of an infected person or animal and may contaminate water or food. Person to person transmission may also occur in day care centers or other similar settings where hand washing practices are poor.

Additional information on Cryptosporidium and Giardia can be found from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791 or at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)**.

# Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)

The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) require that every 5 years the US EPA issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants, suspected to be present in drinking water but do not have health based standards under the SDWA, to be monitored by public water systems under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR). The 1st and 2nd rounds of UCMR monitoring, UCMR 1 and UCMR 2, were conducted by the

City of Yonkers between 2001–2003 and 2008–2010. Between September 2013 and June 2014 the City of Yonkers conducted UCMR 3 monitoring. Subsequently, between August 2018 and November 2019 the City of Yonkers performed occurrence and assessment monitoring for 30 additional unregulated contaminants as part of the US EPA's Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4). Of the 30 contaminants monitored, under UCMR 4,

4 were detected (2 groups of Haloacetic Acid disinfection byproducts, HAA6Br and HAA9, 1 metal and 1 alcohol) as indicated on page 12. The purpose of the UCMR monitoring is to provide EPA assessment and occurrence data to support future regulatory actions to protect the public health. In 2024, the City of Yonkers will commence UCMR 5 monitoring for 29 per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and for the trace metal contaminant lithium.



## Do I Need To Take Special Precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people

should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia* and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or contact them on line at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

## Variances, Exemptions

In accordance with the 1986 Federal Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR), surface water supplies, such as the New York City Water Supply, were required by June 29, 1993 to implement specific water treatment techniques (filtration and/or disinfection) to comply with the rule's performance standards. In 1993, the New York City Water Supply applied for and was granted a filtration avoidance waiver from the USEPA for the Catskill and Delaware supplies, south of the Kensico Reservoir. In 2002, the EPA, upon review of New York City's Watershed Protection Plan, extended the city's federal filtration avoidance waiver for the Catskill and Delaware systems until 2007. In December 2006 the NYC DEP submitted to the EPA its Long Term Watershed Protection Program in support for renewal of its Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD) for the Catskill and Delaware Systems south of the Kensico Reservoir.

This program consisted of several activities to enhance the protection of the City's water supply system from contamination, degradation and pollution: land acquisition, controlling agricultural runoff, infrastructure upgrades, protection of the watersheds natural resources, monitoring and modeling, public education and the building of a large scale ultraviolet light disinfection facility to treat the Catskill and Delaware effluents from the Kensico Reservoir. Based upon review and extensive consultations between EPA, NYC DEP, NYSDOH and the NYS DEC the EPA, on July 30, 2007, issued a 10 year FAD extension to the NYC DEP. On Dec. 28, 2017 the NYSDOH issued a new 10 year FAD that will allow DEP to continue operating its Catskill and Delaware supply, south of the Kensico Reservoir, without filtration through at least 2027. DEP has committed an estimated \$1 billion in funding over the next 10 years to comply with the FAD.

In 1992, the City of Yonkers also applied for and was granted filtration avoidance. This variance is still in effect, contingent on the City of Yonkers and the City of New York's continued demonstration in meeting the avoidance criteria.

On April 10, 2010 the Westchester County Department of Health granted the City of Yonkers reduced 1st draw Lead and Copper at the Tap Monitoring, at the reduced number of sampling sites, from annually to once every three years as a result of achieving compliance with the Lead and Copper Action Levels for three consecutive reduced monitoring periods, 2006 through 2009. This reduction in the monitoring frequency of 1st draw Lead and Copper sampling is contingent upon the City of Yonkers in meeting the Lead and Copper Action Levels during our next

*continued on page 15*



# Lead in Drinking Water

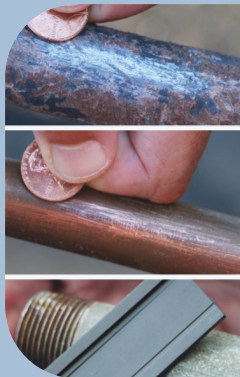
The City of Yonkers is responsible for providing high quality drinking water. To reduce the release of lead from household plumbing components including faucets and fixtures, into the drinking water, the city provides federal mandated corrosion control treatment, see page 5 for details. Since 2006 the City of Yonkers has provided system wide corrosion control treatment. Our most recent calendar year's, 2021, Lead & Copper sampling results, displayed on page 10, demonstrate the effectiveness of our treatment. Lead exposure causes serious health problems. Although according to EPA the greatest exposure to lead is in swallowing or breathing in lead paint chips or dust, lead in drinking water can also cause a variety of adverse health effects. Pregnant women and their fetuses, infants and young children are more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population because their bodies are developing at a rapid rate of growth. Elevated levels of lead can cause damage to the brain, red blood cells, increased risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney and nervous system problems and can significantly harm a fetus causing lower birth weights and slow down its normal mental and physical development. Exposure to even low levels of lead in children can cause a low IQ, hearing impairment, behavior problems, reduced attention span and poor classroom performance. Because the

city can not control the variety of materials used in household plumbing components it is possible that lead levels in your home may be higher than at other homes in the community. If you are concerned about elevated levels in your home drinking water, you may wish to have it tested.

In 2019 the COY was awarded a \$603,855.00 Grant from the NYSDOH's Lead Service Line Replacement Program (LSLRP). It provides city homeowner's that possess a Lead service line, a total service line replacement at no cost to the homeowner. Due to unforeseen delays, resulting from the COVID pandemic, the city only recently commenced its LSLRP in summer of 2021. Presently, the city is prioritizing the properties provided by the WCDOH's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program identified to include households with children testing positive for elevated blood lead levels. In addition, we are including the homeowners participating in our Lead & Copper Monitoring Program. To date the city has replaced 18 homeowner lead service lines. In accordance with the US EPA's 12-16-21 Lead & Copper Rule Revisions, the city is required to compile an inventory of all the lead and galvanized water service lines served by our water system and submit this inventory to the NYSDOH by October of 2024. Therefore, your assistance in preparing this inventory would be greatly appreciated. Lead and

galvanized water service lines are found mostly in homes built prior to the mid 1940s. Therefore, if your home was built during that time period you can easily confirm the presence of a lead or galvanized water service line by using the Scratch/Magnet Test. All that is required is a flat head screwdriver, a small magnet and a flashlight. If you suspect your home contains either a lead or galvanized water service line, upon completing the scratch/magnet test, please notify the COY Water Repair Shop at 914-377-6738 or the Water Department's 24 hour Emergency line at 914-377-6765. Having a list of the exact location of these lead service lines will be of great assistance to the city when future Federal & State Lead Service Line Replacement Grant funding becomes available.

To reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water flush your cold water tap for 1 to 2 minutes before using water that has been standing in the pipes for several hours. Periodically remove and clean the aerator on faucets used for human consumption. Use only cold water for cooking, drinking and making baby formula. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater) and the Westchester County Health Department, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (914) 813-5240.



## Scratch/Magnet Test

First, locate your water meter which is typically located in the basement. Using the flat edge of the screwdriver scrape away any paint or corrosion built up on the outside of the pipe,

coming through the foundation wall, feeding the water meter.

If the scraped area is shiny and silver and the magnet will not stick to the pipe your service is **lead**.

If the scraped area is orange, like the color of a penny your service is **copper**.

If the scraped area remains a dull grey and the magnet sticks to the pipe's surface the service line is **galvanized steel**.

## Variances, Exemptions

*continued from page 14*

round of Lead and Copper monitoring scheduled for June 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024. In addition, the

City must continually demonstrate that its Water System is operating in compliance with the State specified

water quality parameter ranges required to maintain optimal system wide Corrosion Control Treatment.



**CITY OF YONKERS BUREAU OF WATER**  
1070 Nepperhan Avenue  
Yonkers, New York 10703-1497  
[yonkersny.gov](http://yonkersny.gov)



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## Water Conservation

Why save water and how do we avoid wasting it? Fresh water is a vital and limited resource. The replenishment of the NYC Water Supply is dependent upon nature (rainfall and snowfall). Although at this time of year our supply is plentiful, there are times of the year, especially during drought periods, that the source of our supply (precipitation) is limited. Therefore, it must not be wasted. In addition, saving water saves energy and reduces the cost of energy required to treat and pump water. The City of Yonkers encourages water conservation. You can play a role in conserving water and saving yourself money by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using. It is not hard to conserve water. Below are a few simple steps you can take that will preserve this resource and also save up to 30% on your water bill. To learn more about other city services visit [www.yonkersny.gov](http://www.yonkersny.gov).

- Take shorter showers and save 5 to 7 gallons. Fill the bathtub only halfway and save 10-15 gallons.
- Don't run the tap unnecessarily e.g. while shaving, brushing your teeth and washing dishes. Flowing faucets use 2 to 3 gallons per minute.
- Shut faucets off tightly.
- Repair all leaks in your plumbing system (check all toilets & faucets). A slow dripping faucet can waste up to 20 gallons per day and a running toilet can waste up to 100 gallons/day.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes, if it moved you have a leak.
- Limit watering the lawn to early morning and late evening hours when cooler temperatures won't cause quick evaporation.
- Install irrigation sensors on your automatic sprinkler system. They send a signal to the irrigation controller not to irrigate the yard after a good rainfall.
- Don't cut the lawn too short; longer grass saves water.
- Install low flow showerheads, faucets (aerators) and low flush toilets.
- Run the dishwasher only when full. Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle.
- Store drinking water in the refrigerator rather than letting the tap run every time.
- Connect a shut-off nozzle to your hose so water flows only when needed. When finished, turn it off at the spigot to avoid leaks.
- Don't hose down your driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom to clean leaves and debris.
- Never put water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering a plant or garden.
- Wash your car with a bucket and hose with a nozzle.
- Wash clothing in full loads only, saves 16 to 25 gallons. When it is time to replace your washing machine look into getting a front load washer. They use 1/3 the water as a top loading machine.

Please share this report with others! Landlords, businesses, and other enterprises are encouraged to share this important water quality information with users at their locations. Printed copies of this report may be obtained by contacting The City of Yonkers Water Treatment Plant at (914) 377-6764.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.



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